



DRUMCHAPEL NEWS

A MR "BIG" FOR DRUMCHAPEL

**Strathclyde
Regional
Council**
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Anyone who read the newspapers will have noticed banner headlines the other week proclaiming "Jobs boost for Drumchapel" or "Drumchapel in cash Bonanza" What does it All Mean? Well in the words of that wee magician "not a lot". The content of the article was suitably vague about what will actually happen, but two absolute facts emerge..... One both Regional and District Councils have agreed on a 'corporate plan' for Drumchapel. This means that officials of both Councils will actually talk to each other. Yes, they both actually speak English!!! Two an executive at approximately £23,000 per year will be created with the lucky applicant being named "Mr. Drumchapel" (a sort of Peel Glen version of Jimmy Saville).

There will be no new industries attracted to Drumchapel, no new jobs and definately no "cash bonanza". It would appear, in fact, that this is simply yet another "jobs for the boys" excercise designed to look good in the press but achieve nothing on the ground. It seems that both Councils are under constant pressure to produce something, anything in fact that will go some way towards easing the presssures of life in places like Drumchapel.

This "Economic and Social Initiative is simply the latest of them. Before going public with the new initiative, various community workers and housing workers from both authorities were taken to a plush Ayr-shire retreat where they were primed on the "joint approach". The purpose of this Jamboree is unclear, but it is believed that the intention was to inform local workers what the initiative was about what it will mean to them, and how it can be put into practise.



CITY OF GLASGOW
HOUSING DEPARTMENT
35 Hecla Avenue Glasgow G15 8LG

If this initiative and the expensive three day residential course that introduced it, is the best that local government can come up with in alleviating the many and massive problems in Drumchapel.

Both Regional and District Councils were elected to provide people with hope, restore pride and establish and sustain fightbacks in communities like Drumchapel, not acknowledge Central Government cutbacks and not act like the paid servants of Westminster in administration and management.

PEOPLE IN DRUMCHAPEL AND PLACES LIKE IT WANT REAL JOBS - NOT KID ON SCHEMES AND PIECE MEAL PROJECTS. THE MESSAGE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE THIS - LET'S SEE REAL ACTION!!! NOW.

COMPASS CARES, DOES THE REGION ?

For nearly 10 years the ComPASS Care Scheme in St. Pius and Waverley Schools has quietly and efficiently provided a much needed excellent after school provision for parents and children in Drumchapel.

The basic premise for ComPASS is simple if your child requires looking after for any reason, parents working, family problems etc., workers will pick children up from school until parents can collect them.

So far so good you might say, so what's the problem? Well for as long as ComPASS have been operating the workers on the scheme have been paid miserable wages thus saving Strathclyde Region money whilst a valuable and needed service is provided.

Eighteen months ago, after a great deal of pressure was put on the Council, a commitment was given that ComPASS Care schemes in Drumchapel, Easterhouse and Maryhill would be provided from the main Education Dept. budget, staff would be paid at the appropriate wage and rate, this financial commitment would then ensure job security for people who could be fired at the drop of a hat with no redress.

Not unusually for the Region however, a series of fudgings and broken promises have left ComPASS workers in the abominable position of not knowing their future.

Similarly parents who use the scheme are uncertain as to what they will do if ComPASS were to close. In some circumstances it could mean giving up jobs unless they find somebody else to collect their kids from school and then look after them for a couple of hours, all day during school holidays.

The Education Dept. will meet later this month to decide on the future of ComPASS and it is to be hoped that the outcome is not some sort of compromise of keeping the provision of after-school care but skimping on the quality by paying miserly wages.

ComPASS is needed and staff should be given an unconditional secure future which ensures after school provision in Drumchapel for years to come.

EDWARD MILLER

(DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION)

GET YOUR FINGER OUT



1985: A GOOD YEAR FOR THE



GOODYEAR

The story of the Goodyear factory since closure in May 1979 is a tragedy of Epic proportions with successive false starts, dashed hopes and press overreactions. New prospects are apparently on the horizon but before dealing with this it is useful to look at the recent history of the site.

May 1979. Closure. Site for sale. £2,800,000

Oct. 1979. Favior Properties want to build £8,000,000 discount store with factory space.

May 1980. Drumchapel News headline, "Goodyear - A Final Decision Soon".

May 1981. Drumchapel News headline, "Goodyear - A Final Decision Soon".

July/August 1981. Favior appeal (against planning restrictions) refused and they wash their hands of the affair. Councillor Maria Fyffe is quoted as saying, "This is a prime site and will be attractive to industry when they start to respond to any future upswing of the economy".

At the same time rumours abound that the Scottish Development Agency might buy the site and leave it empty so as not to interfere with Clydebank Enterprise Zone. (As if it would!) Price of site now £2,500,000

May 1982. Leech Homes, Lynch Builders Ltd. and McLean Homes as a consortium want to build 800 houses on the site. This plan falls through and demands increase for the S.D.A. to take the site into Clydebank Enterprise Zone.

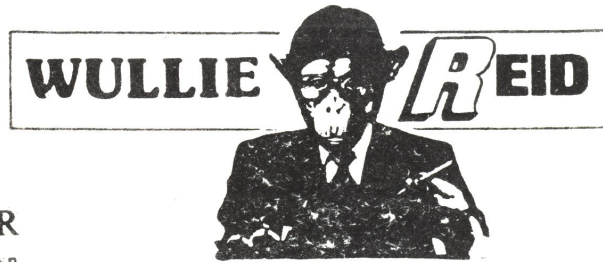
July/Aug. 1983. Site for sale £1,500,000

December 1984. The Latest Proposal:

Agents for Washington House Ltd., the new owners announce a competition for Architects to design possible developments on the site. Hopes are being raised to an all-time high in the area, prematurely in our opinion. We don't trust Property Developers, speculators or profiteers an inch but we do hope the site can be developed.

THE PROBLEM IS THAT THE SITE WILL ONLY BE DEVELOPED IF IT CAN MAKE A HEFTY PROFIT FOR SOMEONE..... in the present climate this seems unlikely so don't raise your hopes.

Goodyear - A Final Decision (Sometime)



THE DAILY RECKER

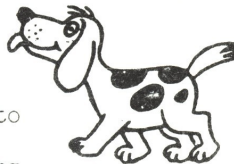
You just can't flush it down

The old ones are the best

Well hello there again readers, it's me Wullie, the finest thing that ever walked on four legs. Did anybody see the televising of the House of Lords last month; they were all there Lord this, Lord that, in fact my old friend Neil Pillock invited me down to view the proceedings. There we were, me and Neil and big Roy, quaffing away the three of us joined in mutual admiration and song fairly belting them out. "Deutschland, Deutschland Uber-alles" aye the old ones are the best. Suddenly the door burst open and do you know who it was? David Owen demanding to know what Neil was going to do about the fall in the pound and the imminent rise in the interest rate. Well I can tell you friends, big Neil finished off his brandy, raised himself to his full height and in a most authoratitive statesman-like manner and in a firm voice replied "I abhor violence, all violence, violence from whichever source it comes, violence from the left, violence from the right, all violence, violence is evil, violence is wrong, violence must be opposed, violence is against our traditions..... Not content with this big Roy drew out a hanky, wiped away his slabbers and retorted. "The party has been infiltrated by crypto-socialist academic middle class revolutionaries, bedsit commies and men with Jack Russel dogs, its time that we rid ourselves of these leech like people".

Trust

Yes readers its at times like these when all about us seems hopeless that we turn to those we trust, placing in them our deepest hopes and dreams and a firm belief that despite the problems facing us we will pull through, that we the British will survive. "Land of hope and glory mother of the free ", aye the old ones are the best.



Yours fraternally,



Wullie.

GAME FOR A LAUGH



"HOUSING OFFICE OF THE FUTURE"

A month or so ago the boss of Glasgow District Council Building department hired some form of analyst to assist his hard pressed officials cope with the stress of work. This was done without the knowledge of the elected representatives, the councillors who when they were informed by the press were a bit miffed to say the least. Again only three weeks ago, our old friends the Housing Department were caught with their trousers down, their shiny new office at Anniesland, or as Councillor David Wiseman said "the Housing Office of the future" had been found to have had individual rooms decorated at a cost of £1200 while council tenants are being forced to accept cutbacks in their repairs and maintenance.

Not content with having the officials run the show, the Housing Convener Jim M'Lean visited the office with about a dozen other officials, not to examine the extravagant spending as he claimed, they were only there to examine a wall. Either way, a dozen people to examine a wall or rooms decorated at £1200 is still an expense we can ill afford. The next time Councillor M'Lean is forced to examine a wall we would suggest that he makes the wall in Mr Brian Gallagher's office the subject of his investigation where he can utilise the services of Gallagher's analyst and have his head looked at for only half the cost.

HOUSING TODAY

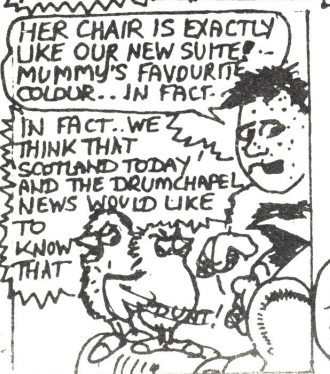
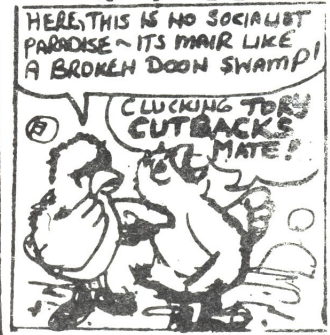


THE PITTS OF 'RA DRUM'



PART 2 'A GLUCKING SHAMBLER!'





Homosexual or Heterosexual Straight or Gay



If you are looking for advice in Drumchapel about anything from welfare rights to setting up a community business that information is available from a number of sources. If however, your sexual preference is for someone of your own sex then that's a different matter. It's been estimated that up to a third of the population may be homosexual (Gay), that's to say that many of the ordinary people you meet, your workmates, friends members of the local residents association may desire the company of their own sex.

Macho In our society men and women are stereotyped with men from the West of Scotland portrayed as hard drinking, hard working Macho men who prefer their partners to be of the opposite sex, submissive, soft, feminine, faithful and a good housekeeper. Men on the other hand are expected to meet the definition of maleness, hard, strong, beer drinkers whose main role in life is to provide for their mate and their offspring. Individuals who prefer the company of their own sex however, are stereotyped into effeminate mincing Larry Grayson look-alikes, or stern faced dykes forever ranting on about the failings of men. Society puts forward the idea of love for our fellow man, but only within the confines of spiritual love. If two people of the same sex indicate that they have a desire for each other it's immediately condemned as immoral, perverted and the individuals as queer. How often has we seen the popular press print stories about Gays who have supposedly touched up children or an adult thereby possibly infecting the person concerned with their own horrible affliction. How many of us can say we know of a gay person who has done this? I for one know of none which is more than I can say for heterosexuals (straights).

With changing attitudes many of us with children will have to come to terms with the fact that many of our children may be gay. With the fact that some day when our sons or daughters meet someone and ask to bring them home to meet you that person may be gay.

Gay people in our society are not all young unattached men and women, many gay people given the pressures placed upon by society are forced into normal male female relationships with the result that they are deperately unhappy. To many people in Drumchapel the issue of an individuals sexual preference may not be of importance, distasteful even. That does not resolve what is a major problem facing many young people today. The question of their sexuality.....

THE DRUMCHAPEL
STARTER PACK

Find enclosed
your free
starter pack
and
cardboard
cut-out

1. One fully trained Alsatian dog, guaranteed to bite the neighbours weans, bark all night, crap and urinate up everybodys close but yours

2. One District Council Housing Department missive entitling you to a rent free flat in balmy Broadholm complete with hot and cold running walls and optional green slime.

3. One Navy Blue Snorkel fitted with baggy pockets holes underneath the armpits, and artificial rabbit skin hood.
(just the thing to keep you warm as you wait two hours outside the Post Office to cash your Giro)

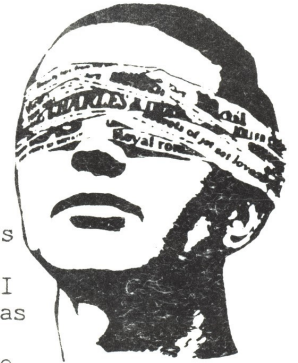
4. One UB40 dole card, giving you unlimited half price access to swimming, golf and the theatre.
(American Express eat your heart out)

that'll do nicely.

JOIN THE EVER GROWING IN CROWD WHO
START AT THE BOTTOM AND WORK THEIR
WAY DOWN

For further details please
apply to your local D.H.S.S.,
Housing Management and Y.T.S.
Office.

It would bring tears tae a glass eye



I don't think people realise the power of this thing called the 'Media' - Newspapers, Radio, and Television. When I was a young naive lad I mistakenly thought the media in our country was at least impartial unlike the totalitarian regimes of other countries. Gradually over the years I began to question this so called impartiality. I now know that you must sift through the outpourings from the media to get nearer the truth. One of the first instances I encountered of media bias was back at the time of the Heath Government. Remember, "Heath Out!, Heath Out!". He seems like a big Teddy Bear now compared with the Wicked Witch of the South. Yes those halcyon days of the early seventies, eighty thousand marched to protest about the high levels of unemployment. Six hundred thousand, yes six hundred thousand. If a Prime Minister could get unemployment down to the that level. He or she would be made a National hero.

It was at the time of the Tory Governments Rent Act when many councils refused to raise rents, these Councils surrendered one by one and eventually the Clay Cross councillors were left in the lurch and fought on bravely alone but what was to come. The Tories sent up one of their lapdogs to find out why Clydebank District Council hadn't increased their rents under the New Rent Act. The enquiry was to take place in the Clydebank Town Hall. Clydebank folk plus many of the local factory workers came to support the council. The audience awaited the arrival of the inquisitor from the south. Everyone seemed in good spirits and there was a party atmosphere. The police didn't think it was good humoured and invited themselves to the party, the gate-crashers stood around the edges of the hall, there was about thirty of them from the Police Station which used to be next door to the Town Hall in those days. To while away the time somebody played the piano, people climbed onto the stage and sang songs, among them my brother who sang a selection of 'Billy Fury's Greatest Hits', then the Welders Shop steward from John Browns much to the delight of the O.A.P.s in the audience sang a couple Al Jolson numbers, said welders party piece in the Boilermakers Club on a Saturday night. It was sad when this frivolity was brought to a halt with the arrival of the Government Official. He came onto the stage to be greeted by shop stewards from the local factories. Everytime he tried to speak he was greeted with cheers and applause as if he was some kind of hero, a strange form of protest to say the least. Eventually he was allowed to speak, he went on to say he was only doing his job etc. etc. The meeting was eventually postponed and we went back to our respective places of toil.

Can you imagine my surprise and shock when the next day I read in the Daily Express that "Workers threaten Government Official with violence" There must be some mistake, no there was a picture of shop stewards around our man from the south. Threatened with violence, violence was the farthest thing from anybodies mind, maybe they thought the singing was torturing him. It was a blatant misrepresentation or at best a case of giving someone part of the story and making sure with use of lines like "Threats of violence" that the reader could fill in the rest for himself. I thought to myself, thousands of people will be reading this who weren't even there and who couldn't even speak to someone who was, they were getting the wrong end of the stick. If this was just one small example of bias reporting, how many times in the past, present and future would stories from around the country and the world be wrongly reported. Our major Newspapers are owned by a handful of people who want to keep the working class down and mislead, the Editors reporters must follow the dictates of the owner or it's out the door, is this a free press?? All through the seventies I noticed these examples of Bias reporting. The Television was just as bad, while the Record showed pictures of soldiers holding up rats during the dustmens strike, the papers had discovered rats in a city thats bred them for years (The two legged and the four legged) a survey of the Dustmens strike showed that of the many hours of reporting on the strike, the dustmen only had a few small interviews, to put their side of the case, on Television. Even now in the midsts of a bitter coal strike the papers and television very seldom seem to discuss things like the effects of virtually total unemployment on small communities instead they dwell on the violence on picket lines. They discuss a symptom and ignore the fear of unemployment. Every now and then the truth will surface. I watched a report on television the other night on the famine victims in the Sudan. The reporter began his report by announcing "There is enough food in the World to feed everyone, these people are starving because they are poor and can't afford to buy that food". What a revelation! Socialists, that much maligned species have been saying as much for years. Here's another revelation of a few weeks ago from the news "The cost of the Trident Missile Project will rise by four Billion to a staggering nine Billion pounds "Now put the two together. Enough food-no-money-starvation-nine billion pounds on a weapon of mass destruction-think of all the grain that could buy. It would bring tears tae a glass eye.



John Pillager.

Welfare Rights

Users and staff at the Phoenix Hall in Monymusk have started a campaign to force the DHSS in Anniesland to provide a better service.

A petition is circulating at present

Give them as much support as you can
944 0110 Dont let the officials grind
you down.....



HOT TOTTIES.....

Do you have the gift of a good memory? Well cast it back a few years and explore the inner canyons of your mind. Concentrate now, getting there? Yes were talking about the community arts project that graced Drumchapel with its arty-farty existence five years or so ago.

Under the direction of an ageing hippy aristocrat called Barney Flatts-Mills a large sum of money, say £35,000 for starters, was awarded with the aim being the making of a movie called "Hero" about the legendary Finn McCool, who as you all know was our M.P. before big Donald (or was that some other mythical character). Local youth were pressed into service as actors, scene arrangers and set builders in constructing a scenario which, in the words of the Drumchapel News of the day "a large part of the object of this project is to bring employment and economic activity to Drumchapel"

As far as we can ascertain the only employment was for good old Barney himself who, having conned huge lumps of money from Glasgow and Strathclyde councils then went on his merry way in pursuit of other mugs. To this day officials in both departments wander mournfully through the corridors of power crying "Barney, Barney, wherefore art thou, Barney".

Video Camera and Accessories

Holiday Village

Transit Van



**WULL YE NO' COME
BACK
AGAIN**

?

We welcome letters, articles,
comment criticism.
All letters to.....
N.T.D.N. c/o The Camus Place
Project 2 Camus Place
Drumchapel Glasgow G15.

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